MEGADETH
MOTORHEAD

HARD ROCK™

15
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MEGADETH

Motorhead

On The Fastrack

The Dave Mustaine Interview

by Peena Dasein

DANGEROUS DAVE IS IN DEEP doo-doo. Megadeth's lion maned mainman is in imminent danger of losing his alliterative nickname. Things have been going so well for him lately, personally and professionally, that he may have to hire a plastic surgeon to restore his trademarked pissed-off scowl.

COUNTDOWN TO EXTINCTION, Megadeth's fifth release, hit the top of the charts, garnering loads of new fans, disgruntling a few old ones and bringing much joy and coin to all involved. The last detox seems to have worked and Mustaine has joined the growing legion of ex-user rockers. He has also become the proud papa of a bouncing baby boy. And during 1992's election campaign, he borrowed a page from The League Of Women Voters and went out to rock the vote. Hell, he was even photographed at home with the baby for the coffee table topper photobook *A Day In The Life Of Hollywood*.

The new Mustaine is calm, polite and given to smiling a lot. Some years ago I introduced Megadeth bassist and brother-in-arms Dave Ellefson to an audience at a music convention. "This is Megadeth's Nice Dave." Loud guffaws and appreciative chuckles from the audience greeted my remark. I couldn't pull that off now.

The new Mustaine is dedicatedly drug-free. His relationship with Ellefson, who seems to scowl with difficulty on stage, goes beyond being bandmates. They were both big-time users, according to Mustaine. "We were spending $500.00 a day for about five years. Dave was still creating his own publishing company, so we were pretty much using up whatever money I had left. We weren't willing to quit because we were so jaded at everything that had taken place in our lives. We figured that it was me and him against the world."

He recalls the old Mustaine very well. "I remember the places I scored, people I got loaded with, people I ripped off." That he can recall *anything* is no mean feat. "Given my return from the dead, being strung out on coke, heroin and alcohol, everything that I could possibly get into my bloodstream, I'm surprised that I can even use my faculties."

Drugs have become so ubiquitous in rock, even among the greatest artists, that one may argue whether they are artistically useful. What is the effect of their removal? "I think that I'm a little more capable of doing something instead of sitting at home curled up in a ball, waiting for my dealer to bring me some heroin." So has he been more active since cleaning up? "Yeah, it's actions, not intentions. Before, I was stuck in neutral." Reminded that he had made some damn fine music while a big user, he dismissed that line. "Well, it's not that hard to roll over and pick up a guitar--you can still lie on your back and strum."

As in all changes, much remains the same for Dave Mustaine. "Since I've taken away the drugs and alcohol, things have become very clear to me. I used to be this asshole that would use and drink, and now I've quit. And *now* I'm this asshole who is off drugs and I want to find out why I am an

(continued)

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SOMEWHERE USA, THE EARLY 80's; A YOUNG BAND IS EN ROUTE TO NEW YORK FROM SAN FRANCISCO TO RECORD THEIR DEBUT ALBUM.
GET UP, DAVE. C'MON. WE NEED TO TALK.
WAKE UP MAN!
JTB
FUCK YOU!! I'M ONE OF THE MAIN WRITERS IN THIS BAND. YOU'LL STINK LIKE WET CRAP WITHOUT ME!!!
MAYBE. BUT THAT'S BETTER THAN PUTTING UP WITH YOU. ME AND LARS SPRUNG FOR A BUS TICKET BACK TO L.A..
WE'LL CUT THE CRAP AND GET TO THE POINT. YOUR ATTITUDE SUCKS. YOU ARE CONSTANTLY LOADED AND YOU'RE A DICK TO EVERYONE AROUND YOU.
UPON ARRIVING IN LOS ANGELES OUR INTREPID HERO SETS ABOUT MAKING NEW FRIENDS.
HA, THAT'LL GET HIS ATTENTION!
BRRM!
KNOCK KNOCK KNOCK
THAT'S BETTER!!
GRRRR!
2

WHAT?!?!?
HEY DUDE, DID YOU LOSE THIS?
DAVE ELLEFSON
AKA. JR.
NO! I THREW IT AT YOUR AIR CONDITIONER!
DON'T YOU KNOW PEOPLE ARE TRYING TO SLEEP!?
SORRY. I FIGURED 3P.M. WAS A SAFE TIME TO PRACTICE.
I JUST MOVED HERE FROM MINNESOTA.
LET ME BUY YOU A BEER TO MAKE UP FOR IT.
HMMM. YOU LIKE BEER.
AND YOU LIKE PUNK.
MAYBE YOU'RE NOT A DICK.
GBH
AS THE TWO GET ACQUAINTED OVER DRINKS...
METALLI-WHO?
YEAH, I USED TO BE IN METALLICA*
THEY DID'NT LIKE MY ATTITUDE.
THEY TOLD ME THEY WOULD'NT USE MY SONGS.
FUCK YOU
ANYWAY, I'M LOOKING TO PUT TOGETHER A NEW BAND.
I DON'T WANT TO JOIN AN ALREADY EXISTING ONE.
I DON'T WANT ANY DOUBTS ABOUT WHO'S IN CHARGE!
IN MID '84, DRUMMER LEE RAUCH IS RECRUITED TO PERFORM ON A THREE SONG DEMO. SEEKING A MORE STABLE LINE-UP, THE TWO DAVES RECRUIT DRUMMER GAR SAMUELSON AND GUITARIST CHRIS POLAND FROM A JAZZ-FUSION GROUP.
*LOTSA DETAILS IN ROCK'N'ROLL COMICS AND HARD ROCK COMICS #1.
SEX PISTO
3

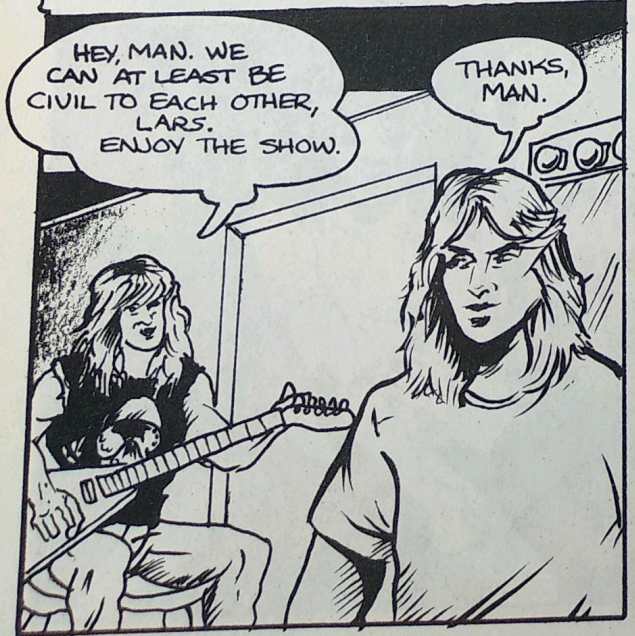
AFTER REJECTING TWO SINGERS, DAVE TAKES ON THE VOCALS.
I HAVE A RAGING HEADACHE BECAUSE I DON'T BREATHE RIGHT.
BUT HEY, I SING, LESS PEOPLE, MORE CASH, MORE CHICKS!
SUCK ME
UM, HAVE YOU SEEN THIS?
HUH!?!
METALLICA
KILL 'EM ALL
YEAH! THOSE PRICKS TOLD ME THEY WOULDN'T USE MY STUFF!
THEY GAVE ME CREDIT ON FOUR TRACKS, BUT THEY USED A LOT MORE OF MY STUFF THAN THAT!!!
ON AN L.A. STREET...
ANOTHER FLYER FROM THAT SENATOR CRANSTON.
THE END IS NEAR
MEGA-DEATH
THAT'S A COOL TITLE FOR A SONG.
THE ARSENAL OF MEGA-DEATH CAN NOT BE RIDDEN
INSTEAD OF A SONG TITLE, THE BAND PICKS UP THE MONIKER. IN EARLY '85, THEY MAKE THEIR RECORD DEBUT ON THE MUSIC FOR NATIONS COMPILATION "WELCOME TO THE METAL ZONE", WITH THE TRACK "SKULL BENEATH THE SKIN". SHORTLY AFTER COMBAT RECORDS RELEASES "KILLING IS MY BUSINESS... AND BUSINESS IS GOOD".
Megadeth
DEAD KENNEDYS
4

ALREADY; INTERNAL PROBLEMS THREATEN TO DESTROY THE BAND... ASK DAVE AND CHRIS.
YOU REALLY ARE A DICK!!
ALL I WANT IS TO HAVE SOME INPUT!
IF YOU CAME UP WITH SOMETHING DECENT...
...MAYBE I WOULD LET YOU!
I DON'T NEED THIS CRAP! I QUIT!!!
INPUT THIS, YOU PUSSY!!
LATER, WITH JUNIOR:
NOW WHAT?
I DON'T KNOW.
I DON'T MEAN TO BE A DICKHEAD.
I JUST FEEL I HAVE TO PROVE SOMETHING BECAUSE OF THAT CRAP WITH METALLICA.
I MEAN, IT'S BAD ENOUGH THAT THEY'VE USED MY SONGS,
BUT THEN OUR OWN RECORD CO. PUTS THAT STUPID STICKER ON OUR ALBUM PROMOTING ME AS "EX-METALLICA GUITARIST"!!
CHRIS RETURNS TO THE FOLD TO BEGIN RECORDING THE SECOND ALBUM.
I UNDERSTAND WHERE YOU'RE COMING FROM.....
FOR NOW.
THE COUNTDOWN TO SELF DESTRUCTION BEGINS IN EARNEST.
MAYBE WE JUST NEED TO RELAX!
5

IN LATE '86 "PEACE SELLS..... BUT WHO'S BUYING" IS RELEASED ON CAPITOL RECORDS.

A VIDEO FOR THE TITLE TRACK ATTAINS POSITIVE REACTION.

THE DEATH OF METALLICA BASS PLAYER CLIFF BURTON PROMPTS FORMER BAND MATES TO PUT FEUDS ASIDE.... FOR NOW.

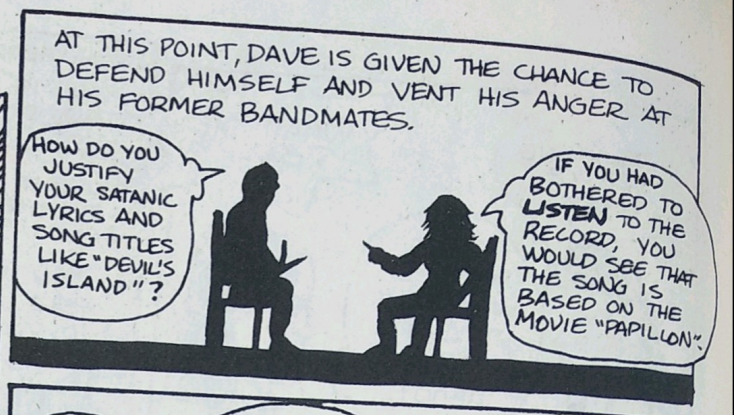


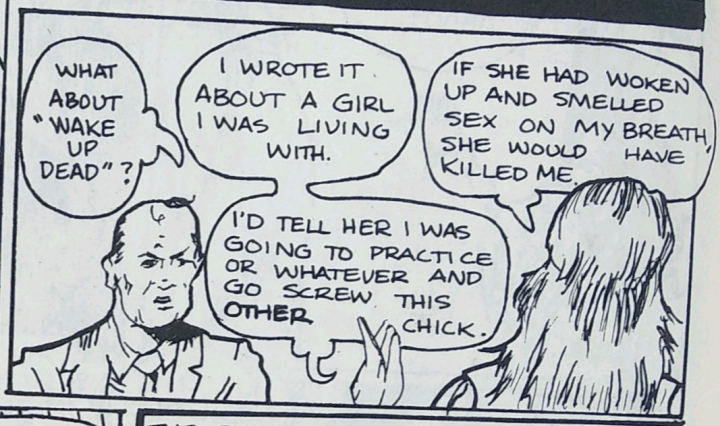
UPON HEARING OF THE ATTEMPTED BASSIST SWIPE, DAVE IS LESS THAN PLEASED.
WHO'S GOING TO REPLACE HIM?
THAT'S WHAT I WANTED TO TALK TO YOU ABOUT...
WHAT THE FUCK?!?
I THOUGHT I'D LET BY-GONES BE BY-GONES, BUT NO!! YOU WALTZ IN HERE AND TRY TO SNAG MY BASSIST!
* OF COURSE DAVE DIDN'T REALLY HAVE AN AXE, THOUGH HE WISHES HE HAD!
THAT'S CRAP. HE WAS BEGGING TO JOIN.
FACE IT. NOBODY CAN STAND TO BE AROUND YOU FOR LONG!
LISTEN YOU LITTLE WIMP,
I'M SICK OF THIS! I WAS WILLING TO CALL A TRUCE,
BUT SINCE YOU BROKE IT...
I'LL TELL YOU TO QUIT RIPPING ME OFF!!
CHINK!
YOU'VE BEEN HITTING THE DOPE A BIT MUCH!
KRAK!
YOU DON'T HAVE A SINGLE SONGWRITING CREDIT ON "MASTER OF PUPPETS"
YEAH! IF YOU BELIEVE THE CREDITS!!
BUT LET'S TALK REALITY
"LEPER MESSIAH"? I WAS THE ONE WHO LISTENED TO BOWIE. I WAS THE ONE WHO WAS ALWAYS TALKING ABOUT THE LEPER MESSIAH!
AND WHAT ABOUT THE MUSIC? "THE HILLS RUN RED", HUH LARS? MINE!
7

1987 SEES THE BAND ON THEIR FIRST REAL TOUR, SUPPORTING **ALICE COOPER.***

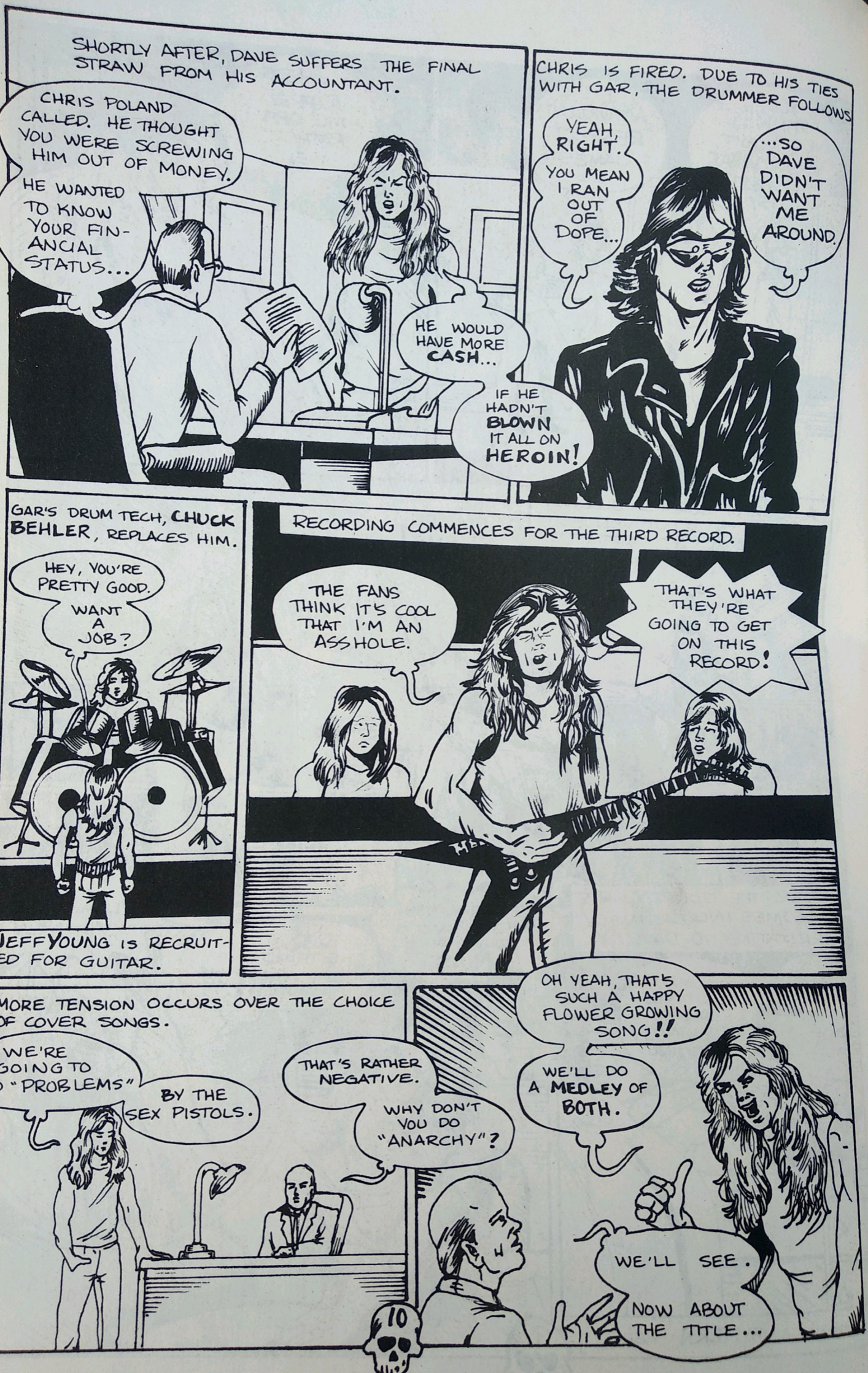
*HIS STORY IS IN ROCK'N'ROLL COMICS #18

AT THIS POINT, DAVE IS GIVEN THE CHANCE TO DEFEND HIMSELF AND VENT HIS ANGER AT HIS FORMER BANDMATES.



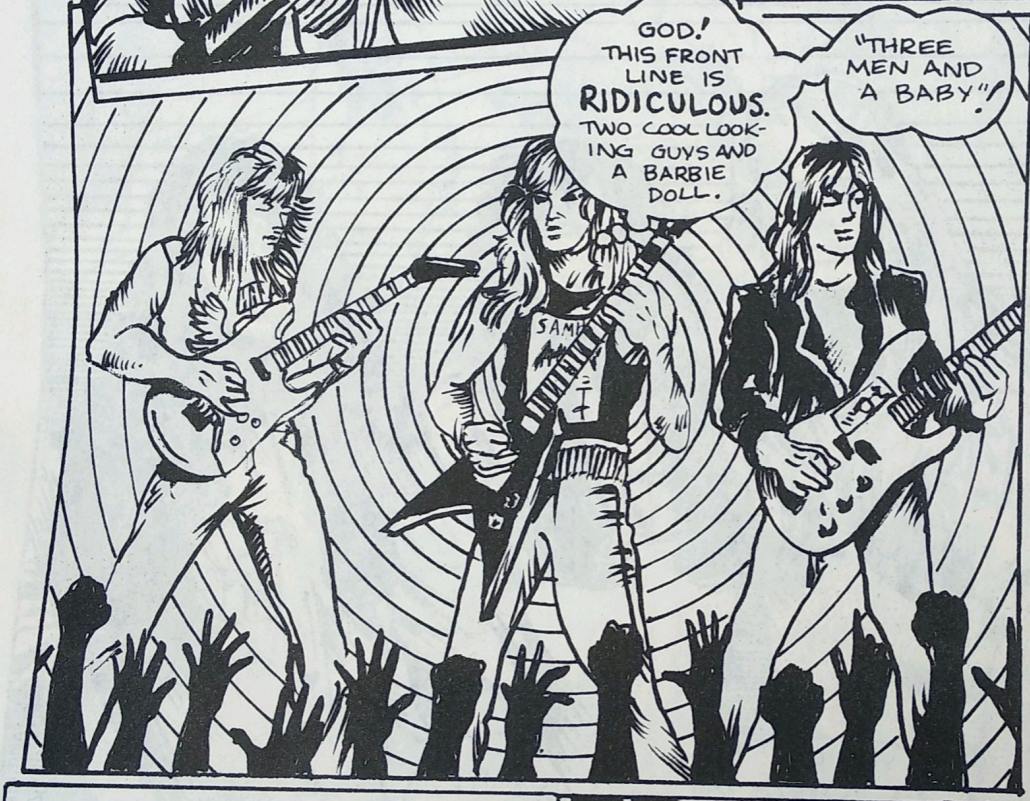


YOU PUNK!! YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT THE TRUTH IS!
I ACTUALLY RESPECT JAMES...
... HE'S RIPPED ME OFF RATHER WELL.
A TOUR OF EUROPE FOLLOWS. DESPITE SOLD OUT VENUES...
EUROPE SUCKS!
?!
AFTER THE TOUR, CHRIS BECOMES INCREASINGLY IRRITATING TO DAVE.*
I'M SORRY, MAN. BUT THE BAND IS DRIVING ME NUTS.
LEAVE ME ALONE!!
THIS IS THE THIRD TIME YOU'VE CALLED ME TONIGHT!
I CAN'T TAKE IT!
HELLO...
... AWW MAN! IT'S THREE IN THE FUCKING MORNING!
*SENSING A PATTERN HERE?
9


SHORTLY AFTER, DAVE SUFFERS THE FINAL STRAW FROM HIS ACCOUNTANT.
CHRIS POLAND CALLED. HE THOUGHT YOU WERE SCREWING HIM OUT OF MONEY.
HE WANTED TO KNOW YOUR FINANCIAL STATUS...
HE WOULD HAVE MORE CASH...
IF HE HADN'T BLOWN IT ALL ON HEROIN!
CHRIS IS FIRED. DUE TO HIS TIES WITH GAR, THE DRUMMER FOLLOWS.
YEAH, RIGHT.
YOU MEAN I RAN OUT OF DOPE...
...SO DAVE DIDN'T WANT ME AROUND.
GAR'S DRUM TECH, CHUCK BEHLER, REPLACES HIM.
HEY, YOU'RE PRETTY GOOD. WANT A JOB?
JEFF YOUNG IS RECRUITED FOR GUITAR.
RECORDING COMMENCES FOR THE THIRD RECORD.
THE FANS THINK IT'S COOL THAT I'M AN ASSHOLE.
THAT'S WHAT THEY'RE GOING TO GET ON THIS RECORD!
MORE TENSION OCCURS OVER THE CHOICE OF COVER SONGS.
WE'RE GOING TO DO "PROBLEMS" BY THE SEX PISTOLS.
THAT'S RATHER NEGATIVE. WHY DON'T YOU DO "ANARCHY"?
OH YEAH, THAT'S SUCH A HAPPY FLOWER GROWING SONG!!
WE'LL DO A MEDLEY OF BOTH.
WE'LL SEE. NOW ABOUT THE TITLE...

THE ALBUM IS RELEASED.

ALONG WITH A TOUR, THE BAND ALSO MAKES ITS FILM DEBUT IN "DECLINE OF WESTERN CIVILIZATION PART II: THE METAL YEARS".

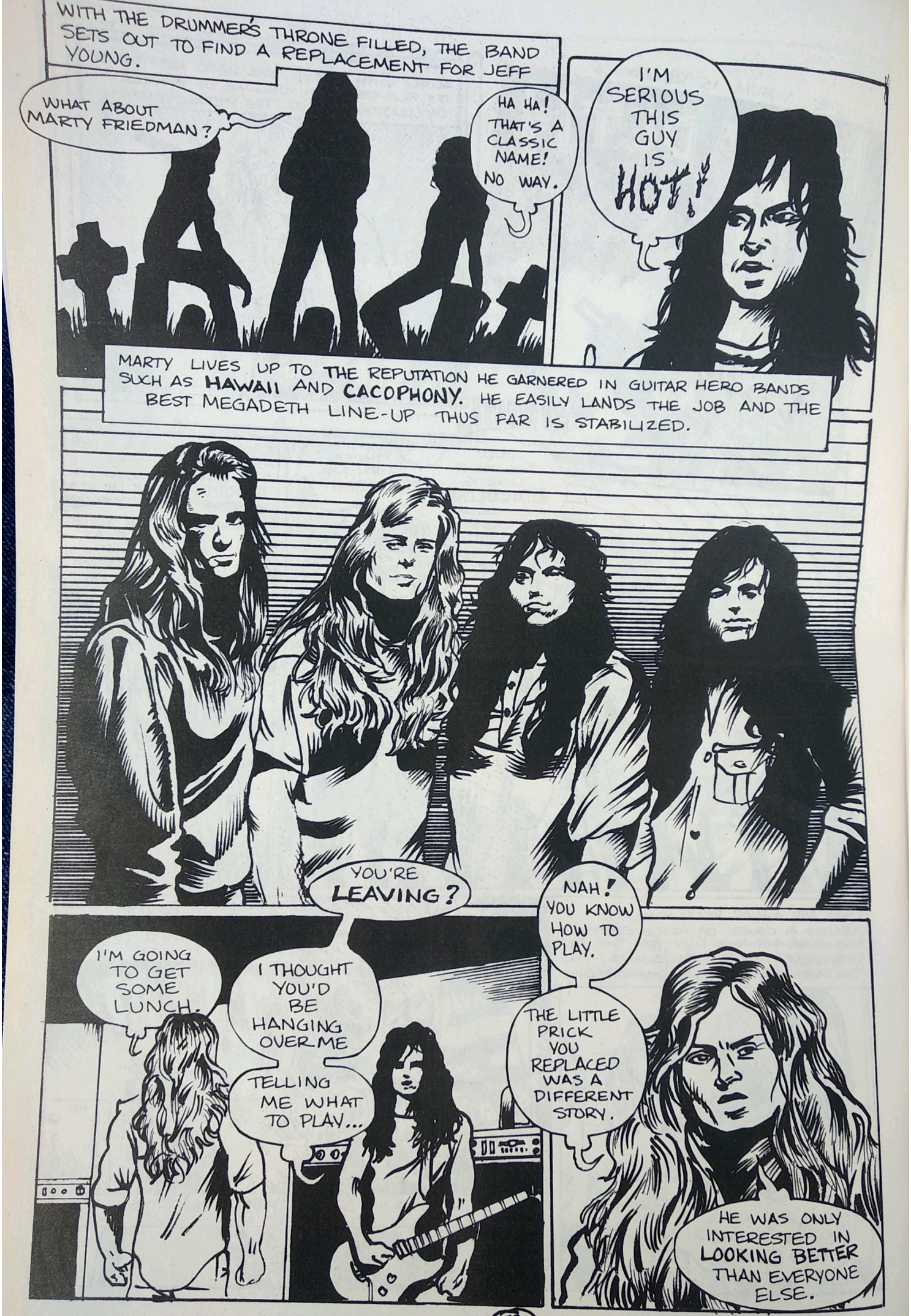


CHUCK BEHLER BECOMES A PROBLEM ALSO. THE DAVES ARE INTRODUCED TO DRUMMER NICK MENZA

DAVE AND JUNIOR RECRUIT NICK TO RECORD A COVER OF ALICE COOPER'S "NO MORE MR. NICE GUY" FOR THE FILM "SHOCKER". THE FILM VERSION IS AN ULTRA SLICK PRODUCTION BY DESMOND CHILD.

TO PROMOTE THE FILM, DAVE IS ELECTROCUTED BY ALICE FOR THE BENEFIT OF FILM CREWS. *

* NOW IF THEY'D HAD JAMES HETFIELD MANNING THE SWITCH...
-JAY-


WITH THE DRUMMER'S THRONE FILLED, THE BAND SETS OUT TO FIND A REPLACEMENT FOR JEFF YOUNG.
WHAT ABOUT MARTY FRIEDMAN?
HA HA! THAT'S A CLASSIC NAME! NO WAY.
I'M SERIOUS THIS GUY IS HOT!
MARTY LIVES UP TO THE REPUTATION HE GARNERED IN GUITAR HERO BANDS SUCH AS HAWAII AND CACOPHONY. HE EASILY LANDS THE JOB AND THE BEST MEGADETH LINE-UP THUS FAR IS STABILIZED.
YOU'RE LEAVING?
NAH! YOU KNOW HOW TO PLAY.
I'M GOING TO GET SOME LUNCH.
I THOUGHT YOU'D BE HANGING OVER ME TELLING ME WHAT TO PLAY...
THE LITTLE PRICK YOU REPLACED WAS A DIFFERENT STORY.
HE WAS ONLY INTERESTED IN LOOKING BETTER THAN EVERYONE ELSE.

WITH THE RELEASE OF "RUST IN PEACE", MEGADETH HITS THE ROAD, OPENING FOR JUDAS PRIEST. THEY ALSO PARTICIPATE IN THE "CLASH OF THE TITANS" TOUR IN EUROPE.
MEGADETH
BUT I'VE FOUND SOME NEW THRILLS! SKYDIVING IS A BIGGER RUSH THAN ANY DOPE I'VE DONE!
AN AMERICAN VERSION OF "TITANS" IS PLANNED.
IT'LL BE A ROTATING LINE-UP. MEGADETH, ANTHRAX, SLAYER, AND MOTORHEAD.
MOTORHEAD!?! YEAH! MY ASS WILL BE IN THE FRONT ROW EVERY NIGHT THEY PLAY! ESPECIALLY WHEN THEY HEADLINE!!
OH NO! THEY WON'T GET A CHANCE TO HEADLINE. THEY'RE STRICTLY OPENING THE SHOW.
WHAT? WHY THE HELL NOT?!
THEY ARE JUST NOT AS COMMERCIALLY VIABLE AS THE OTHER BANDS.
THAT'S CRAP!! THEY'RE THE GRANDADS OF THE WHOLE SCENE!
IF THEY DON'T GET A SHOT AT HEADLINING, YOU CAN COUNT ME OUT!!

MEGADETH
ANTHRAX
NOT
SHAMBLES!
THE CLASH OF THE TITANS TOUR IS LAUNCHED. ALICE IN CHAINS* FILL THE OPENING SLOT.
SLAYER
ALICE IN CHAINS
* YEP, COMING SOON IN HARD ROCK COMICS. J
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AS USUAL THE PRESS ASKS ANNOYING QUESTIONS.
NOW THAT YOU'RE CLEAN, WILL YOU BE DOING ANTI-DRUG SPOTS?
NO
BUT YOU HAVE A RESPONSIBILITY TO PEOPLE WHO LOOK UP TO YOU.
I'M NOT GOING TO PREACH AGAINST DRUG ABUSE.
IF SOMEONE WANTS TO GET SOBER, I'LL TELL THEM HOW I DID IT.
I WILL, HOWEVER, DISCUSS THE IMPORTANCE OF VOTING. I EVEN COVER THE DEMOCRATIC CONVENTION FOR MTV.
IN THE SUMMER OF '92, THE ALBUM "COUNTDOWN TO EXTINCTION" IS RELEASED AND IMMEDIATELY BEGINS ASCENDING THE CHARTS.
MEGADETH
#5
THE ALBUM IS IMPORTANT IN TWO WAYS. THE FIRST BEING THAT THE LINE-UP HAS REMAINED STABLE.
THE SECOND BEING THE LACK OF SELF INDULGENCE EXHIBITED ON "SO FAR".
MEGA
EXIT
TEE HEE
AT PRESS TIME IT SEEMS ENTIRELY LIKELY THAT MEGADETH WILL FINALLY RECEIVE THE RECOGNITION THEY DESERVE.
END
15

Todd Loren PRESENTS
motörhead
MONTEREY POP, THE FIRST INTERNATIONAL ROCK FESTIVAL- JUNE 1967.
HENDRIX IS SOMETHING ELSE MAN! AND LOOK AT THE SIZE OF THOSE AMPS! GOOD AND LOUD.
EVERYONE'S REALLY DIGGING THIS PSYCHEDELIC STUFF, EVEN THOUGH THEY ARE JUST SITTING THERE ON THE DAMP GROUND.
I GUESS THE TIME FOR BEAT MUSIC LIKE MY OLD GROUP, "THE ROCKIN' VICARS," IS OVER.
THAT WAS REAL ROCK 'N' ROLL.
WRITER: DEENA DASEIN
ARTIST: LARRY NADOLSKY
LETTERS: CHRIS BARNETT
EDITOR: JAY ALLEN SANFORD
HEY LEMMY. DO YOU WANT TO TRY SOME ACID?
SURE. WHY NOT?
IT'S PROBABLY LIKE A JOINT, BUT A BIT STRONGER.
Marsh
Mars
HENDRIX
OH NO! I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU ATE THE WHOLE THING. I WAS GONNA CUT IT IN FOURTHS.
I'M BEGINNING TO UNDERSTAND THIS PSYCHEDELIC MUSIC, MAN.

*AMERICAN SLANG FOR SPEED FREAK.

THOUGHT YOU WERE IN JAIL IN CANADA.
THEY ARRESTED ME FOR COCAINE POSSESSION. BUT I WAS CARRYING AMPHETAMINES. A HANDY LITTLE CANADIAN LAW, WRONGFUL, CHARGE, GOT MY CASE THROWN OUT.
I'M GOING TO FORM A GROUP THAT'S, WELL, THE PSYCHEDELIC ANTICHRIST!
PSSSHHH
BLACK PRINT
MY BAND WILL CONCENTRATE ON BASIC MUSIC-- LOUD, FAST, CITY, RAUCOUS, ARROGANT, PARANOID SPEEDFREAK ROCK 'N' ROLL.
NOW THERE'LL BE NO SYNTHESIZERS OR TOOTING ON THE SAX- I'VE GOT TO LEARN MORE CHORDS. I'M WORKING WITH TWO BASTARDS, LUCAS FOX, AND LARRY WALLIS FROM PINK FAIRIES.
LIKE A PINKWIND CONCERT STRIPPED DOWN TO ROCK 'N' ROLL.
MOTORHEAD
MOTÖRHEAD'S FIRST GIG - ROUNDHOUSE, LONDON, JULY 20 1975.
LEMMY GETS A PAL, PHILTHY, TO DRIVE HIM TO ROCKFIELD STUDIO WHERE MOTÖRHEAD IS RECORDING ITS FIRST ALBUM.
ENTERING WALES
67349750
HOW'D YA GET THAT NAME?
GRANNY GAVE IT TO ME. EVERY SUNDAY WHEN I WENT 'ROUND TO VISIT HER I'D BE COVERED WITH DOGSHIT AND MUD AND STUFF AND SHE'D SAY, "YOU'RE A FILTHY ANIMAL, PHIL".
PRODUCER DAVE EDMUNDS ISN'T A MOTORHEAD FAN.
AAARGH! I CAN'T TAKE ANY MORE OF THIS AWFUL NOISE.

1977, PLAYING THE LONDON MARQUEE.
LONDON MARQUEE
TONIGHT MOTÖRHEAD
THIS HAS GOT TO BE OUR LAST GIG. PUNKS REJECT US 'CAUSE OF OUR LOOKS. UNITED ARTISTS WOULDN'T EVEN RELEASE THE ALBUM.
DAMN! MOTÖRHEAD IS A BAND WHOSE TIME NEVER CAME.
CHISWICK RECORDS HEAD, TED CARROLL, CATCHES THE MOTÖRHEAD MADNESS.
motörhead
MOTÖRHEAD IS GREAT!! I'M GONNA GIVE THEM 48 HOURS OF STUDIO TIME TO RECORD A COUPLE OF SONGS!
CHISWICK RECORDS
MOTÖRHEAD'S T.V. DEBUT, WITH THEIR HIT COVER OF "LOUIE, LOUIE".
TOP OF THE POPS
LOUIE LOUIII
LADS, WE'RE GONNA CUT A WHOLE ALBUM, NOT JUST TWO SONGS. SO GEAR-UP, STRAP-ON, PLUG IN, HEAD DOWN, AND PRESS "RECORD"!
TIM BEAM
BEER
ALE
I THINK OUR TIME HAS COME!! PUNK'S DEAD BUT IT INSPIRED THIS NEW WAVE OF BRITISH HEAVY METAL THING. AND WE'RE RIDING TO THE TOP WITH THIS WAVE!
EVEN U.A. HAVE RELEASED THAT FIRST ALBUM. IT WASN'T GOOD ENOUGH FOR THOSE BASTARDS THEN, BUT NOW THAT WE'RE HOT...

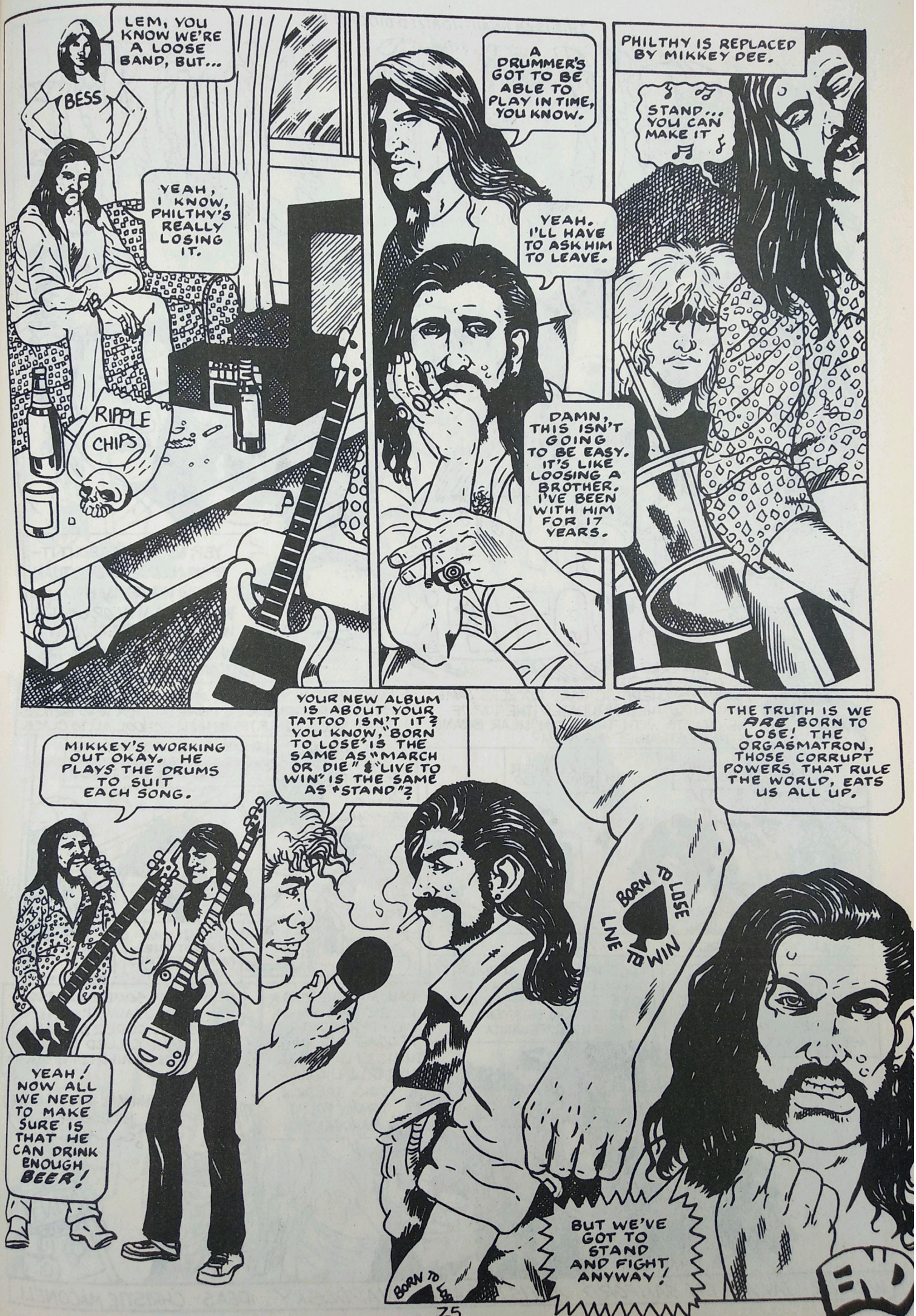
"BOMBER" IS A HIT ALBUM, "OVERKILL" IS EVEN BETTER.
COLLABORATING WITH GIRLSCHOOL, LEMMY AND EDDIE RECORD THE INFAMOUS ST. VALENTINE'S DAY MASSACRE E.P.
PLEASE DON'T TOUCH
PLEASE DON'T TOUCH.
MOTÖRHEAD SCHEDULE GIGS FOR UNDERAGE FANS WHO WEREN'T ALLOWED INTO SHOWS ON THEIR TOUR OF ENGLAND AND RECORD THE MAYHEM FOR POSTERITY.
THAT RECORDING, "NO SLEEP 'TIL HAMMERSMITH", ENTERS THE CHARTS AT #1.
THE ONLY CARD YOU NEED IS THE ACE OF SPADES
OZZY OSBOURNE MAKES AN OFFER THAT MOTÖRHEAD CAN'T REFUSE.
YOU GUYS WANT TO OPEN FOR ME IN THE STATES?
DO WE EVER! WE'RE BIG HERE, BUT MOTÖRHEAD'S GOT TO BREAK INTO THE U.S. MARKET. THANKS!
STAND BY YOUR MAN
I CAN'T STAND THIS CRAP!
RETURNING FROM THE U.S. TOUR, MANY KNOBS ARE TWIDDLED WHEN LEMMY RECORDS WITH WENDY O WILLIAMS.

ANY ROMAN CATHOLICS IN HERE? ANY PROTESTANTS? ANY BUDDHISTS? MOHAMMEDANS?
YOU'RE ALL FUCKED UP!
THERE IS NO SUCH THING AS RELIGION, BABY. ROCK 'N' ROLL IS THE ONLY TRUE RELIGION!
FIRST NORTH AMERICAN SOLO TOUR.
OUR FIRST SOLO TOUR OF THE U.S.... IT'S OUR TIME TO FINALLY MAKE IT AND NOW EDDIE* UPS AND QUITS. DAMN!
I'LL BET WE CAN GET A PAL OF MINE, ROBBO, TO REPLACE EDDIE. YOU KNOW HIM, BRIAN ROBERTSON.
HE WAS IN THIN LIZZY.
LET'S HEAR IT FOR THE ROAD CREW!
*HE FORMS BY-THE-NUMBERS SPEED METAL GROUP, FASTWAY.
ROBBO FLIES OVER TO COMPLETE THE TOUR. BACK IN ENGLAND, THE BAND PLAYS A HELLS ANGELS FESTIVAL.
TOO BAD THAT MOTÖRHEAD AIN'T STYLE FASCISTS.
WHAT A TWIT.
BOO!!
BOO!! GET OFF THE STAGE!
ANGELS
ANGELS

TO THE MUTUAL RELIEF OF ALL, ROBBO LEAVES THE BAND.
KNOW HOW YOUR MUSIC PAPER PIECE MENTIONED THAT WE WERE LOOKING FOR A REPLACEMENT FOR ROBBO? SO FAR MORE THAN 80 UNKNOWNS APPLIED FOR THE JOB. IT'S AMAZING!
AUDITIONS CAN BE NERVE-WRACKING.
M-M-MY NAME IS MICK BURSTON B-B-BUT THEY CALL ME WURZEL.
SIT DOWN AND HAVE A COUPLE OF VODKA'S. YOU'LL BE ALRIGHT.
LATER...
LEMMY'S A GOOD BLOKE. SAID HE REALLY LIKED MY STUFF TOO. I SUPPOSE I GOT A SHOT AT THE GIG.
TOO BAD IT HAS TO BE EITHER YOU OR ME, WURZ.
WHY NOT BOTH OF US?
AFTER ALL THOSE AUDITIONS, WE'VE NARROWED IT DOWN TO THEM TWO -- BURSTON AND CAMPBELL.
THEY BOTH CAN PLAY, AND THEY'RE BOTH FINE LADS. WHICH ONE DO YOU FAVOR?
HOW COULD PHILTHY DO THAT! JEEZ, MOTÖRHEAD'S JUST ME NOW...
LOOK LEM, YOU DECIDE. I'M SICK OF EVERYONE TREATING MOTÖRHEAD AS A JOKE. I'M LEAVING THE BAND!
PHILTHY'S DELAYED A BIT. YOU'RE BOTH GREAT. LET'S MAKE MOTÖRHEAD A 4 PIECE OUTFIT AND HAVE YOU BOTH.
WELL, I'LL BUZZ UP PETE GILL. HE USED TO BASH DRUMS FOR SAXON!

THE BAND CELEBRATES ITS 10TH ANNIVERSARY AT LONDON'S HAMMERSMITH ODEON MOTORHEADMEN PAST & PRESENT ARE ALL ONSTAGE.
♪MOTORHEAD♫
MOTORHEAD TAKES OVER Z-ROCK RADIO STATION WHILE TOURING THE U.S. IN SUPPORT OF NEW ALBUM "ORGASMATRON".
THIS IS ROCK HISTORY BOYS & GIRLS. IT'S WHAT STARTED HEAVY METAL, IN AMERICA!
THIS IS MC5!
I'VE ALWAYS WANTED TO ASK YOU, LEMMY, WHY DO YOU SING WITH THE MIC UP HIGH?
TO HIT THE HIGH NOTES.
AND SO I DIDN'T HAVE TO SEE ALL THOSE AUDIENCES THAT USED TO HATE US.
MOTÖRHEAD'S MULTIMEDIA EXPOSURE CONTINUES AS LEMMY HAS THE LEAD IN A MOVIE - "EAT THE RICH".
DAMN! WHAT TIMING. PETE DOESN'T WANT TO DO THE MOVIE AND WAITS UNTIL THE DAY THEY'RE SHOOTING TO TELL US!
BASTARD! I'VE GOT AN IDEA. LET'S POP AROUND THE CORNER TO THE PUB WHERE PHILTHY USUALLY HANGS OUT.
SHORTLY THEREAFTER...
PETE'S GONE FOR GOOD. ALWAYS NEEDED A CHARLES BRONSON LOOKALIKE IN THE BAND. WE'VE ONLY 5 DAYS BEFORE STARTING THE EUROPEAN TOUR, SO YOU'VE GOT TO HAVE A CRASH COURSE IN ORGASMATRON.
NO PANIC. GIMME THE TAPES.
THE BAND, WITH PHILTHY ON DRUMS, IS FILMED PLAYING "DR. ROCK".
JESUS, I CAN'T BELIEVE WHAT A PRAT I WAS LEAVING. LEM, IF PETE EVER QUITS I'D LIKE TO COME BACK.
EAT THE RICH
EAT THE RICH

LEMMY MOVES TO L.A. AND THE BAND RECORDS THEIR NEXT ALBUM IN ANGEL CITY.
LEM, YOU'RE NOT GOING TO PUT THAT "1916" THING ON OUR ALBUM, ARE YOU? STICK IT ON A SOLO. I'M NOT GOING TO PLAY ON THAT SONG!
IT'S A GOOD, SERIOUS, SONG. BESIDES, MOTÖRHEAD IS MY BAND.
IF YOU ARE GOING TO RECORD THAT, WE'RE GOING TO GET SOMETHING TO DRINK.
GO! "1916" WON'T HAVE GUITARS- JUST VIOLIN, CELLO, HARMONIUM & PIPE ORGAN.
LEMMY MAY BE THE RECORD-HOLDER FOR ENGLAND'S MOST INTERVIEWED ROCKER.
NOW THAT YOU'RE LIVING IN L.A., ANY MORE MOVIES?
WOULDN'T MIND PLAYING AN APACHE OR A VIKING. SEE, I COULD ONLY PLAY CHARACTERS WITH LONG HAIR. I AIN'T GETTING IT FUCKING CUT, THAT'S FOR CERTAIN.
RAINBOW BAR
OZZY
WHAT'S UP DOC?
RIPPLE CHIPS
SO THAT KIND OF LIMITS ANY ACTING CAREER I COULD HAVE, DOESN'T IT?
WHERE'D YOU GET THE IDEA FOR "1916"?
SAW A T.V. SPECIAL ON THE BATTLE OF THE SOMME. THOUSANDS OF LADS WERE KILLED BEFORE TEA TIME.
THAT'LL TEACH THEM TO OBEY THEIR ELDERS AND BETTERS.
TWO BRITISH METAL SIRES - OZZY & LEMMY - HANGING OUT IN ANGEL CITY.
Quit Tind the Fiddle
OZ, HOW YOU DOING MAN?
GREAT! LISTEN I'VE BEEN DOING ALL THESE INTERVIEWS FOR MY NEW ALBUM AND EVERYONE SAYS THE SAME THING.
"IT'S YOUR MOST AUTOBIOGRAPHICAL ALBUM SO FAR", I TELL 'EM, "DON'T KNOW WHY YOU ARE SAYING THAT - LEMMY WROTE MOST OF IT!
WE'RE BOTH HELLRAISERS WHO'VE GONE AROUND THE WORLD FOR ROCK 'N' ROLL. 'CEPT I CAN HOLD MY LIQUOR BETTER'N YOU, HEH-HEH!


LEM, YOU KNOW WE'RE A LOOSE BAND, BUT...
BESS
YEAH, I KNOW, PHILTHY'S REALLY LOSING IT.
RIPPLE
CHIPS
A DRUMMER'S GOT TO BE ABLE TO PLAY IN TIME, YOU KNOW.
YEAH. I'LL HAVE TO ASK HIM TO LEAVE.
DAMN, THIS ISN'T GOING TO BE EASY. IT'S LIKE LOOSING A BROTHER. I'VE BEEN WITH HIM FOR 17 YEARS.
PHILTHY IS REPLACED BY MIKKEY DEE.
STAND... YOU CAN MAKE IT
MIKKEY'S WORKING OUT OKAY. HE PLAYS THE DRUMS TO SUIT EACH SONG.
YOUR NEW ALBUM IS ABOUT YOUR TATTOO ISN'T IT? YOU KNOW, "BORN TO LOSE" IS THE SAME AS "MARCH OR DIE" & "LIVE TO WIN" IS THE SAME AS "STAND"?
THE TRUTH IS WE ARE BORN TO LOSE! THE ORGASMATRON, THOSE CORRUPT POWERS THAT RULE THE WORLD, EATS US ALL UP.
BORN TO LOSE
LIVE TO WIN
YEAH! NOW ALL WE NEED TO MAKE SURE IS THAT HE CAN DRINK ENOUGH BEER!
BUT WE'VE GOT TO STAND AND FIGHT ANYWAY!
BORN TO
END

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asshole." Not quite the quest for herb, but a worthy search nonetheless.

Mustaine's reputation as being somewhat difficult to work with should not be unduly tarnished, despite the new smiles and politeness. "This country is full of fat, lazy people. They want everything handed to them on a platter and they're not willing to work for it. I will only associate with people who work as hard at things as I do. When other people are around for the ride--like it says in the bible, the branches of a tree that don't produce fruit are cut off. It's like living in a society where parasitic cells are around us. A parasite will latch on to another living cell, it will consume it, and when the cell that it consumes is dead it will move on to another cell. I'm not about to let someone try and latch on to me and take anything out of me. I'm completely one hundred percent independent of any other person. The only person that I rely on with my whole heart and soul is my creator."

"This country is full of fat, lazy people. They want everything handed to them on a platter and they're not willing to work for it."

But the internal politics of the band are new. Sure, it's still Mustaine's band, but the new Dave no longer totally dominates its creative process, allowing more recent members (**Marty Friedman** on guitar and **Nick Menza** bashing the skins), and his old buddy Ellefson, to make significant input. The old Mustaine's rule "It's my way or the highway" no longer fully applies.

Mustaine has always kept a cynical eye cocked at society's political possibilities. A Megadeth concert staple is their rousing cover of the Sex Pistols' "Anarchy In The U.K." But at his shows during the 1992 Presidential campaign, before launching into the song, he urged his fans to be responsible citizens and register to vote. The new Mustaine was active in Rock The Vote, a rock industry effort to influence the increasingly reluctant-to-vote rock fans.

This embrace of establishment politics is particularly puzzling given Mustaine's scornful view of politicians. How did this respectable political activism come about? "It's pretty much all new to me," he admits. "As far as actually participating, a lot of people stand on the sidelines, sit there and call in the plays. They are armchair quarterbacks and they think that they're real bitchin' ."

In the early 80's, punk and heavy metal were mortal enemies. I recall seeing a photo, shot at a Seattle heavy metal show in 1982, in which some kids hold up a banner reading "Kill a punk for rock and roll." Mustaine's political views, sarcasm, dislike of hypocrisy and aggressive cynicism all fit well with punk's sensibility. When he was starting his rock career, punkers like the Dead Kennedys were all the range. What did Dave think about Jello Biafra, mouthpiece of the DK's? "I think that Jello is very intelligent, a genius. It's come to my attention that he doesn't really like me and what I stand for. I can accept that. And I still think that he's a great man and that he has great lyrics."

But Mustaine was an avid and talented guitarist, and punk was never into guitar virtuosity. "When James Hetfield, Lars Ulrich and myself had met, there was the New Wave Of British Heavy Metal and there was the punk scene. There was also my belief about how a guitar should be played, Lars' belief about how a song should be created and James' belief about how riffs should be patterned. The three of us came together and started writing songs and the nucleus of Metallica was born."

Metallica was on the frontlines of the early 80's metal revolution, refashioning the genre and stripping it of the visual bloat and goosing up its tempo. But revolutions never fully eradicate the old regime, and even revolutionary leaders often backslide. Mustaine is not too pleased with the current state of things metallic. "Metal for the most part has changed so dramatically [since 1980]. It's become a whole marketing vehicle for a visual thing. It's not even music anymore. We get bagged on because we don't sit there and do cartwheels on the stage. You see other people go out there and almost get their balls blown off by flash pots, balloons dropping from the ceiling and all kinds of shit. What happened to the *music*?"

Mustaine's political activity was not confined to the cultural arena. He did a major stint covering the Democratic National Convention for MTV, and he did a piece on the Houston Republican shindig for Entertainment Tonight. Well, Jello Biafra ran for mayor of San Francisco in 1979, coming in fourth in a field of ten. Is Mustaine planning for a similar second career?

A brief discussion of American Presidents confirms that the old cynicism is still there. "I'm 30 years old. I can't really see anybody that has been really positive. Carter was good for foreign policy but had his brother pull him down. You've got Ford, who couldn't make it up or down the stairway of a plane without falling on his face. You've got Nixon, who was a good president of sorts until he started snooping. You've got Reagan, who is primarily an actor who lied his way to the top. His most infamous line now is 'I don't recall.' It sounds to me like he is still doing lines. It's funny that he can

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choose which tie goes with which suit but he can't remember lines which were important in creating the decline of society."

Which brings us to the most recent ex-President and Mustaine does not beat around the Bush. "You see, my enrollment in Rock The Vote was to take a non-partisan position. So I couldn't really crap on Bush too much. But I think that in the bible it said that Satan is the father of the lie for saying to Eve that she surely would not die if she ate the apple and that God was jealous because He wanted to be the war-mongerer power fiend. And I think that George Bush is a direct descendent of Satan with his 'I won't raise taxes.' Grandson of the Liar!"

Given this assessment of politicians, why did he urge his fans to vote for them? Wasn't this giving encouragement to, if not the enemy, then to the incompetent and viciously naive? "I have a son now," Mustaine stated, "and whatever takes place this year is going to be setting the trend for the future. If George Bush had gotten another four years, we would have been fucked. If Bill Clinton doesn't do something, we're fucked." Or in other words, it will be all over. What's the name of the new album anyway?

Apocalyptic visions aren't recent additions to Mustaine's repertoire. His lyrics reflect the name of his band. Death, in its many forms from universal apocalypse to personal suicide, is a staple item. The debut album was aptly titled "Killing Is My Business . . . And Business Is Good." Its songs are peppered with the keyword *"die."*

Mustaine has not confined his fascination with death to his lyrical output or to overindulgence in alcohol and drugs. He is a sky-diving enthusiast. "There is no other word to describe skydiving except complete, utter insanity. You jump out of a doorway over two miles above the face of the earth and plummet through the air with a mere chance that two semi-circles of nylon parachute material will save your life. If anything goes wrong, and sometimes it will, you'll die. I haven't done it for awhile. I'm still fascinated with cheating the odds, of flirting with death. I'm not afraid of death. I'm more afraid of life, because I know that there is a place for me when I die."

This belief is not new. Over seven years ago, Mustaine wrote a song called "Chosen One." In it, he says:

"But I walk in the light, the time to die has come,

No one shall take my life, I'm of the chosen ones."

Many of his other songs are also religiously informed. On that same debut release is "Looking Down The Cross."

"Bleeding from the crown, led to stay,

to die beside the thieves,

kill the King of the world to be."

Clearly, Mustaine's vision is rooted in theology. When I tried to explore this, his initial response was blunt. "I have no religion, nor do I choose to belong to one. I think that religion is manmade and that spirituality is God-given. Religion is for people that are afraid to go to hell, and spirituality is for people like me who have *been* there."

With a bit more probing he conceded "Well, my mother was a Jehovah's Witness, my whole family on my mother's side is." Well, that does explain a lot. Raised in a religion that is focussed on the end of the world, one can see how someone might write "Countdown To Extinction." Raised in a religion that sees signs that the end is near by witnessing political corruption, one can see where Mustaine's political interest comes from. Raised in a religion which stresses the distinction between those who *will* be saved and those who will be *damned*, one can see how a person might write a song like "Chosen One."

"I'm still fascinated with cheating the odds, of flirting with death. I'm not afraid of death. I'm more afraid of life, because I know that there is a place for me when I die."

Mustaine continued. "I don't see where reading the Bible would hurt you at all. If anything, it's a way of seeing what's taking place. If you have any grasp of American or world history, and if you've been introduced to opening the Bible, chances are that you can write prophetic songs." He certainly understands a major source of his own creativity.

A new Dave Mustaine? Or just the sane guitar player and metal freak who has always smiled softly behind the psycho's mask?

Revolutionary Comics wants your questions, comments and criticism. Address them to: Revolutionary Comics, 9528 Miramar Road. #213, San Diego, CA 92126.

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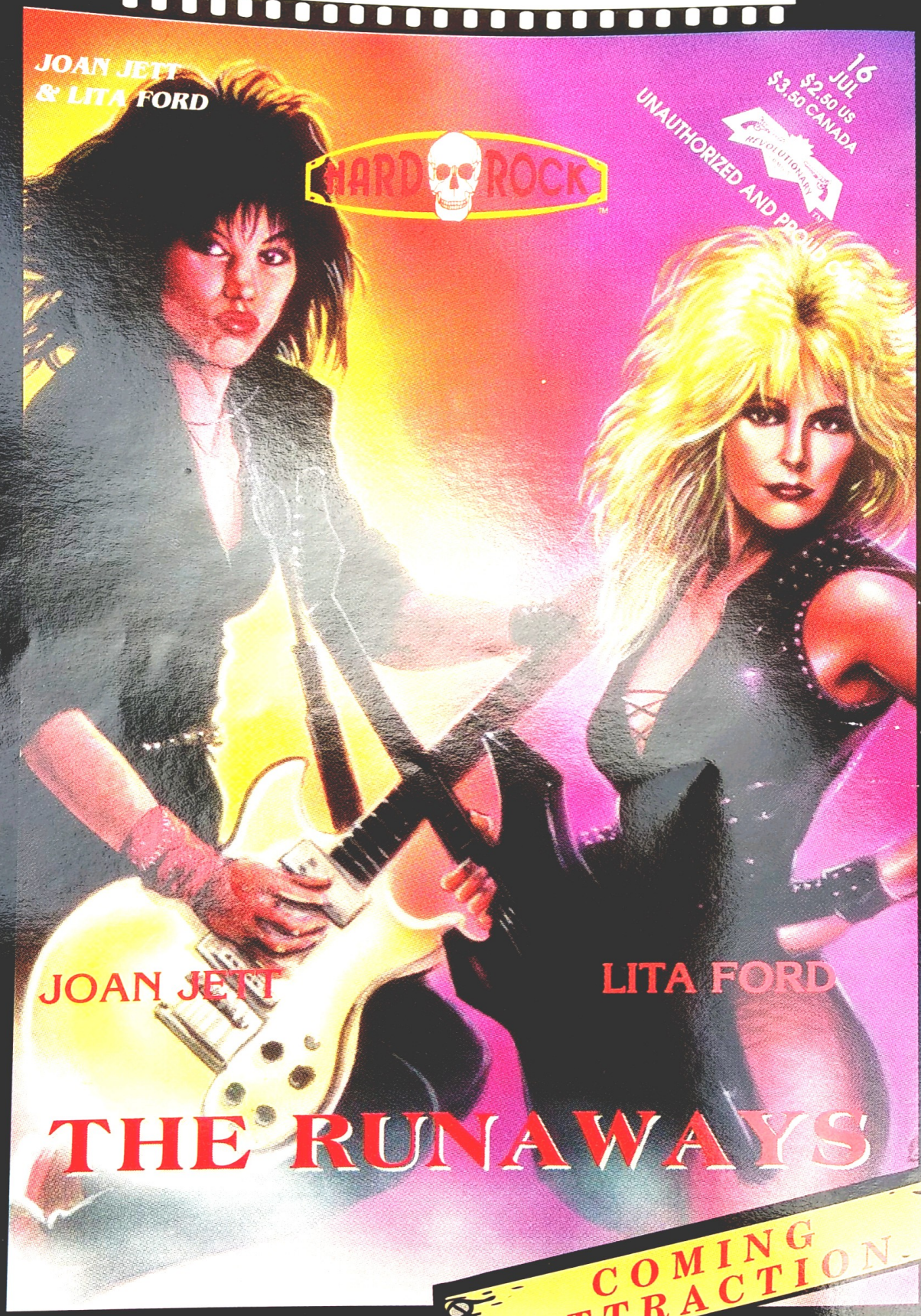

COMING ATTRACTION